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SUBJECT

Notes on the Deutscher Normenausschuss (DNA) (German Committee of Standards)

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. On 3 May 1953, the newly-elected presidium of DNA convened for the first time. From the East, Professor H. H. Franck was present. He had been vice-president during the previous term but does not belong to the new presidium. Speaking for West Germany, he explained that in West Germany standardization was being strictly planned and applied according to schedule and that it had a character other than that in the East. The new Office of Standardization, which is supposed to supervise the standardization, is proof that great importance is attached to standardization. Further, West Germany hopes for close cooperation with the DNA, particularly since this is the only authorized four-zonal body and the only bond between East Germany and the Federal Republic on a technical level. Unfortunately, recent cooperation has often been hindered because interzonal passes and notice issued to members in the East in time for meetings in the West. The Office of Standardization will seek to resolve this difficulty so that in the future meetings which take place in the West can also be visited by the members from East Germany. The ten new members of the presidium could not yet be named because the Office of Standardization is still being built up.
2. Professor Alfred Rachel, who was again elected president, thanked Professor Franck for his explanation with reference to the unaltered cooperation of West Germany in the DNA and requested Franck to use his influence to see to it that the new presidium members were named before 31 May. Professor Rachel added that he looked forward to continuing the practice of electing an East German representative to the office of vice-president. For this reason, the election of the vice-president could not take place until after the appointment of the East German members.
3. The Office of Standardization intended to publish the names of the ten new presidium members. As of 17 June, the DNA did not yet have this list in its hands.
4. When Germany was taken into the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) in 1952, the Deutscher Normenausschuss (DNA) undertook the responsibility for paying the yearly membership fee of 10000. According to proportional population figures, the responsibility for 4000 of this sum falls upon East Germany. At that time Professor Werner Lange of the State Planning Commission declared that East Germany was prepared to pay this fee. As of 19 June 1953, however, the payment for the year 1952 had not been made.

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